

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 MCE-00 TRSE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /114 W

-----119539 250214Z /73

O R 250138Z OCT 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6533

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 4026

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNSC SF

SUBJECT: WESTERN FIVE CONSULTATIONS ON SOUTH AFRICA - OCTOBER 24

1. WESTERN FIVE HELD CONSULTATIONS ON SOUTH AFRICA AT US MISSION FOLLOWING SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON THAT SUBJECT OCTOBER 24. WITH ALL FIVE LACKING INSTRUCTIONS, MEETING WAS INCONCLUSIVE.

2. ALL AGREE THAT A COMMON POSITION OF THE FIVE WOULD BE DESIRABLE. THE FOUR LOOKED TO THE US "AS THE MEMBER APPARENTLY READY TO MOVE FARTHER THAN THE REST OF US" AND PUSH INSISTENTLY FOR INDICATIONS OF CURRENT US THINKING.

3. AMBASSADOR MCHENRY REITERATED THAT US HAD NOT YET MADE ITS DECISIONS BUT HE OUTLINED, CAREFULLY AND IN GENERAL TERMS. SOME OF THE OPTIONS NOW BEING CONSIDERED IN WASHINGTON, INCLUDING AN APPROPRIATELY WORDED MANDATORY ARMS EMBARGO.
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4. UK (RICHARD) SAID THAT UK, DESPITE PROBLEMS, COULD PROBABLY AGREE TO "SOMETHING ARMS AND INVESTMENTS" BUT THAT A CLEAR LINE WOULD HAVE TO BE DRAWN BEYOND WHICH WESTERN FIVE WOULD TELL AFRICANS FIVE COULD NOT GO. UK HAD SPECIAL PROBLEM WITH LANGUAGE IN RESOLUTION S/12312 (SEPTEL) CALLING ON GOVERNMENTS "TO REFRAIN FROM...

TRADE OR OTHER ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA."
CANADA AND FRG NOTED BASIC CONSTITUTIONAL PROBLEMS IN
THEIR GOVERNMENTS WITH RESTRUCTIONS ON INVESTMENTS.

5. THE FOUR ALL EMPHASIZED THAT IF THE US WAS CONSIDERING
A CHANGE IN ITS PAST STANCE IN THESE MATTERS, THEIR
GOVERNMENTS WOULD NEED SOME TIME TO WEIGH THE US INITIATIVES.
US COULD NOT EXPECT INSTANT AGREEMENT.

6. COMMENT: WHILE ALL POINTED OUR SPECIFIC NATIONAL
PROBLEMS WITH VARIOUS OPTIONS FOR ACTION AGAINST SOUTH
AFRICA, FOUR WERE QUITE CLEARLY LOOKING TO THE US TO TAKE
THE LEAD AND ANXIOUS LEAST THEY SHOULD BE LEFT
BEHIND. END COMMENT.

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